

THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING

Departmental Research Seminar



**Producing Significant Research: Some Advice,
New Steps at MISQ, and a Personal Reflection**
By

Prof. Andrew Burton-Jones
The University of Queensland

Date : 9 Feb 2023 (THU)
Time : 9:30 – 11 am
Venue : Online via Zoom

Abstract

The rigor-versus-relevance debate raises its head on a regular basis in almost every scientific field, and the field of Information Systems (IS) is no exception. So much has been written on the topic that a researcher might well ask: “What more can be said?” Despite the hackneyed nature of the debate, it is important for researchers and journals to ask whether the research they are producing is sufficiently significant. In this talk, I will take rigor as given and focus on the significance of IS research, where significance refers to impact beyond academia. The question I seek to address is how the IS field can produce more significant research, and how a journal like *MIS Quarterly* can facilitate it. I will describe an approach to answering these questions that we have taken at *MISQ* along with a new initiative. I will then describe related initiatives at *MISQ* that target complementary aspects of this issue. Finally, I will reflect on my own research on the digital transformation of healthcare, and how it could become more significant.

Prof. Andrew Burton-Jones graduated from UQ's Commerce program in 1998 and worked for several years in IT risk management for one of the Big-4 accounting/consulting firms. He then moved to Georgia State University in Atlanta, USA, to complete his Ph.D., followed by seven years at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada, where he became a tenured Associate Professor. He returned to UQ in May 2012.

He has taught information systems in undergraduate, graduate, and executive programs, in several countries. He has extensive experience teaching IT governance and control, systems analysis and design, and digital health. He undertakes research in three areas. His first area focuses on how effectively organisations use IT. For example, he has been studying the effective use of electronic health records in health authorities. His second research area focused on improving methods to analyse and design IT systems. For example, he has examined ways to improve the specification of user requirements. His third research stream focuses on improving theories and methods used by researchers in the Information Systems discipline.

He has published in and served on the editorial boards of many journals, including the *Journal of the Association for Information Systems*, *Information Systems Research*, *MIS Quarterly*, *Information and Organization*, and *Academy of Management Discoveries*. He has also served as Representative for the Americas for the Association of Information Systems and as International Representative for the Academy of Management (OCIS/CTO Division). He is a Fellow of the Association for Information Systems, Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences of Australia, and Editor-in-Chief of *MIS Quarterly* (2021-2023).

All interested are welcome.



THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學

Department of
**MANAGEMENT
& MARKETING**
管理及市場學系